Estimation of People Below Poverty Line

796. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have revised the criteria for estimating people below the poverty line;

(b) if so, what is the present income ceiling fixed for determining people below poverty line; and

(c) what is the State-wise break-up of people below poverty line and how does it compare with corresponding figures in 1979-80 and 1989-90?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG): (a) and (b) The Task Force on Projection of Minimum Needs and Effective Consumption Demand constituted[v] by Planning Commission in 1979 recommended a poverty line of Rs. 49.09 per capita per month for rural areas and Rs. 56.64 per capita per month for urban areas. This has been used as the criteria for estimating the number and proportion of poor in India and has not been changed. The poverty line is upoated to allow for changes in prices affecting the cost of living of the people around poverty line. The poverty line updated for the year 1987-88, the latest year for which state-wise estimates of poverty are available, are:—

Rural : Rs. 131.8 per capita per month.

Urban : Rs. 152.1 per capita per month.

(c) The State-wise break-up of people below poverty line for 1977-78 and 1987-88 is given in the enclosed statement *(See* below). These estimates are not available for the years 1979-80 and 1989-90.

State-wise break up of people below poverty line (No.Lakhs)
(Officially released estimates)

Sl. No.	State	Period 1977-78	1987-88
1.	Andhra Pradesh	217.4	195.7
2.	Assam	84.4	52.9
3.	Bihar	364.2	336.4
4.	Gujarat	122.1	73.3
5.	Haryana	29.9	18.2
6.	Himachal Pradesh	10.7	4.5
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	18.4	9.8
8.	Karnataka	173.5	136.5
9.	Kerala	117.1	49.0
10.	Madhya Pradesh	285.8	224.9
ll.	Maharashtra	296.2	214.1
12.	Orissa	162.7	135.1
13.	Punjab	25.5	13.9
14.	Rajasthan	103.5	99.5
15.	Tamil Nadu	244.4	176.9
16.	Uttar Pradesh	506.0	448.3
17.	West Bengal	265.5	173.5
18.	Small States & U.Ts	40.7	14.2
	All India:	3068.0	2376.7